

**St. Michael's Orthodox Church  
308 Walnut St.  
Jermyn, Pennsylvania 18433**

**Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)**  
Rectory: 876-1241 – Cell: 561-8696

**Steve Franchak (President)**  
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**Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak**  
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**St. Michael's Center: 876-3454**

**St. Michael's Church: 876-4710**

**Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475**

**Church Website: [stmichaeljermyn.org](http://stmichaeljermyn.org)  
& 360 virtual tour and 4-part welcome**

**Reader & Cantor: Vasili Dubee:254-9720**

**Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8**

**May 16, 2021, Holy Myrrhbearing  
Women, & Joseph of Arimathea.**

**Acts: 6:1-17**

**Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!**

**Sunday, May 16,** Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. **Parastas** (9<sup>th</sup> Day) for Lorraine Serniak, lovingly offered by her daughter Ann, **Parastas** for Robert R.A. Furiosi (1<sup>st</sup> year Anniversary) offered lovingly by his wife Melanie, **Parastas** for Antoinette Petorak (Anniversary) offered lovingly by George & Marilyn Petorak.

**Sunday of the Paralytic, May 23,** Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

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**BBQ Chicken & Rib Dinner** will be held on Saturday, June 26 at St. Michael's Center from 1-5p.m.  
**BBQ Chicken Dinner \$13.00 & BBQ Rib Dinner \$15.00** sponsored by St. Michael's Center & Windsor Inn  
Please call Ruth for tickets at 570-876-1456.

**Church Wine Donation \$100.00** is offered in loving memory of Robert R.A. Furiosi, by his brother-in-law Vladimir Kitchura. **May his memory be eternal!**

**On behalf of Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak,** A Special Thank You for all those who came out for the General Cleaning of St. Michael's Center. **May our Lord Bless You for offering of your time & talents.**

**A Special Thank You to Lydia Given** for directing our Church choir this morning. She is the wife of Brad Given who will be entering into his final year at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary.

**Church Committee & St. Michael's Center & Windsor Inn Meeting** will be held this Monday, May 24th 5:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend!

**A Special donation of \$50.00** was given to our Church by Ann Marie Kitchura, in loving memory of her husband Michael Kitchura. May his memory be eternal!

**In order to meet our growing financial obligations**, we are asking all our parishioners, when not in Church to send in their weekly offering envelopes. **We thank you in advance!**

**Please note:** The water at our St. Michael's Church Cemetery has been turned on for the season. Please be careful by turning off the water after being used. May our Lord give eternal rest to our departed Church family.

**If your Church Dues are in arrears**, please make an effort to send them to the Church as we began the New Year. The Annual dues are **\$160.00** per year. Please call Gloria Shaw at 570-954-3905 to get your balance. **May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you for many years!**

**Please remember in your prayers:** **Peter Senio** who is a guest at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa. and **Jacky Drutarosky** who is in the Lackawanna Health and Rehab Center, 260 Terrace Drive, Peckville, Pa. 18452

**The Holy Myrrhbearing Women** are those women who followed the Lord, along with His Mother. They remained with her during the time of the saving Passion, and anointed the Lord's body with myrrh. Joseph and Nikodemus asked for and received the Lord's body from Pilate. They took it down from the Cross, wrapped it in linen cloths and spices, then they laid it in a tomb, and then they placed a great stone over the entrance of the tomb. According to the Evangelist Matthew (27:57-61) Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joses (Mark 15:40) were there sitting opposite the sepulcher, and they saw where He had been laid. This other Mary was the Mother of God. Not only were these present, but also many other women, as Saint Luke says (24:10).

We remember the women because they were the first to truthfully bear witness to the Resurrection, while Joseph and Nicodemus were the first to bear witness to the burial of Christ. These two facts are both true and well known by us. Nicodemus was immediately banished from the synagogue and was forbidden to rejoin it. After burying the Body of Jesus, Joseph was thrown into a deep pit; however, by the grace of God, he was delivered from it and went to his estate in Arimathea. After His Resurrection, Christ showed Himself to Joseph, who was tied in bonds, thus firmly confirming the mystery of the Resurrection. Joseph suffered a great deal at the hands of his persecutors, but he could not bear to keep silent concerning all these mystical events and boldly taught all people about what had taken place regarding Jesus. It is said that Nicodemus, was the first to proclaim in detail what had occurred at the Passion and Resurrection of Christ. St. Nicodemus and St. Joseph are commemorated after the Resurrection, together with the women who saw the risen Christ, because they are true and authentic witnesses of the Burial.

